

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ATHENS 03742 251442Z
ACTION SS-25

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C O N F I D E N T I A L ATHENS 3742

EXDIS

DEPARTMENT REPEAT OTHER ADDRESSEES AS DESIRED

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, NATO
SUBJECT: LONDON NATO SUMMIT: BILATERAL MEETING WITH CARAMANLIS

REF: A) ATHENS 3700, B) STATE 081894

1. MOLYVIATIS TELEPHONED ME TODAY AND IN A COLD VOICE SAID THAT PRIME MINISTER CARAMANLIS WISHED TO HAVE A MESSAGE TRANSMITTED TO PRESIDENT CARTER. THE TEXT OF THE MESSAGE IS AS FOLLOWS:
2. BEGIN TEXT: THE PRIME MINISTER HAS REASONS TO PREFER THAT THE MEETING WITH THE PRESIDENT TAKE PLACE ON MONDAY, MAY 9, AT ANY TIME CONVENIENT TO THE PRESIDENT. HOWEVER, IF THE PRIME MINISTER'S REQUEST CANNOT BE ACCOMMODATED, THE PRIME MINISTER WOULD AGREE WITH THE TIME PROPOSED BY THE PRESIDENT (REFTELS). END TEXT
3. I TRIED TO DRAW MOLYVIATIS OUT ON THE REASONS FOR THE MESSAGE, BUT HE WAS UNWILLING TO SAY ANYTHING FURTHER EXCEPT THAT CARAMANLIS WOULD "GREATLY APPRECIATE IT IF A SPECIAL EFFORT" WERE MADE TO ACCOMMODATE HIS REQUEST. I SAID I WAS UNDER THE IMPRESSION THAT THE PRESIDENT'S TIME IN LONDON WAS ALREADY VERY CONFIDENTIAL

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TIGHTLY SCHEDULED BUT WOULD, OF COURSE, CONVEY CARAMANLIS' MESSAGE TO WASHINGTON IMMEDIATELY. I AGAIN DISCUSSED, AS I HAD ON SATURDAY, THE PRESIDENT'S INTENTION TO INCLUDE HIS SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE CLARK CLIFFORD IN HIS BILATERAL MEETING WITH CARAMANLIS AND CLIFFORD'S SUBSEQUENT AVAILABILITY ON MAY 10 AND 11 FOR FURTHER MEETINGS WITH CARAMANLIS AND/OR BITSIOS. IN RESPONSE TO MY SPECIFIC INQUIRY ON THIS POINT, MOLYVIATIS

SAID THERE WAS "NO REACTION" TO BE CONVEYED TO US AS YET CONCERNING CLIFFORD'S AVAILABILITY.

4. COMMENT. COOLNESS, RESERVE AND DISAPPOINTMENT WERE (DELIBERATELY, I THINK) REFLECTED IN MOLYVIATIS' MANNER. CARAMANLIS, OF COURSE, IN ADDITION TO THE SERIOUS SUBSTANTIVE QUESTIONS HE WISHES TO DISCUSS WITH THE PRESIDENT, ALSO IS Hugely PROUD AND CONSIDERS HIMSELF TO BE AN ESPECIALLY PROMINENT LONG-TIME LEADER IN THE DEMOCRATIC WORLD. HE IS PROBABLY SOMEWHAT RESENTFUL AT WHAT HE CONSIDERS THE PRESIDENT'S GREATER ATTENTIVENESS TO OTHER GOVERNMENT LEADERS DURING THIS PERIOD. I HOPE HIS REQUEST WILL BE ACCOMMODATED IT AT ALL POSSIBLE.
KUBISCH

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